

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 21 April 1954

SUBJECT Critical Shortages at VEB Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF, Berlin-Oberschoene-weide

NO. OF PAGES 1 25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED

25X1C

NO. OF ENCLS.
LISTED BELOW

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. On 4 February 1954, VEB Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen RFT¹ reported to the Main Administration for Radio and Telecommunications (HV RFT) of the East German Ministry for Machine Construction that its supply of Wo 918 wires (thoriated tungsten wires) had been entirely used up by 15 January 1954 and that no new supplies had come in since that date. The plant urgently claimed its share of the 130 kilometers of the thoriated tungsten wire which was to be imported early in 1954 according to the import plan.
2. The enterprise also reported that its production is seriously hampered by the lack of adequate copper-nickel wrapped wire (Cu-Ni-Manteldraht). A delivery of such wire from Walzwerk Hettstedt could be used only to a small extent because of the bad quality of most of the wire.
3. Another important bottleneck mentioned in the report was the lack of Kovar. The report stated that 46 kilograms of this material delivered in December 1953 by VEB Halbzeugwerk Auerhammer could not be used at all because it had too great an expansion coefficient, could not be drawn easily, and had a scaly surface. As a reason for the unsatisfactory quality of the Kovar from the Auerhammer Factory as well as from Walzwerk Hettstedt, the report indicated that the two plants have been unable to obtain allotments of sufficiently pure cobalt.

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1. Comment: The new name for the HF plant, Berlin-Oberschoene-weide.

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